

# ISAC Meeting – May 2012

## INFORMATION or DECISION ITEM

**SPONSORING ISAC MEMBER**

Stephen Phillips

**PRESENTER'S NAME/AFFILIATION:**

Stephanie Carman, DOI

**TOPIC:**

Invasive Mussel Prevention and Containment Efforts in the West

**1. DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM:** Shortly after the discovery of quagga mussels in Lake Mead in 2007, the western states, federal agencies, and other partners developed the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan for Western U.S. Waters (QZAP). This presentation will give an update on the implementation of QZAP, focusing on the prevention efforts in the uninfested waters of the Pacific Northwest and the containment efforts in the infested, high-use waters of the Lower Colorado River. Highlights will include information on the Idaho, Oregon, and Washington highway check station programs that require transported watercraft to stop for an inspection. Numerous watercraft have been stopped and decontaminated in recent years, including 36-fouled boats stopped by Idaho since 2009. The talk will also focus on the implementation of the FY12 Department of Interior Appropriations Bill directing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to spend \$1 million toward the implementation of mandatory inspection and decontamination stations at Federally-managed or interjurisdictional water bodies considered to be of highest risk.

**2. WHY IS THIS ITEM IMPORTANT TO NISC / ISAC?** Western states, especially those which are not yet infested with quagga mussels, are mounting extensive programs to slow or stop the spread of dreissenid mussels. At the same time, there is increasing pressure on federal agencies to enhance efforts to control for dreissenid mussels, particularly on infested watercraft leaving federal waters. Partners across the west, from the National Park Service in the Lower Colorado River to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, are investigating ways to work better separately and together in a time of declining budgets. The purpose of this presentation is to update ISAC on the issue. A recommendation to NISC is also a potential outcome.

**3. HOW DOES THIS ITEM RELATE TO THE 2008 – 2012 NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT PLAN?** This directly relates to Performance Element P.2.3.1: Reduce the spread of zebra and quagga mussels in the Western United States and Performance Element CM.2.1.1: Increase the number of cleaning treatments conducted to address pathways of spread such as potentially contaminated equipment, hikers, anglers, recreational vehicles, watercraft or other conveyances.

**4. PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN BY NISC / ISAC ON THIS ITEM:** David Britton, USFWS, briefed ISAC in May 2008 on western mussel issues, specifically the 100th Meridian Initiative and the utility of the boater survey database to document pathways for spread invasive species. No specific actions were requested of ISAC.

**5. ACTION REQUESTED OF NISC / ISAC:** Information, potential recommendation to NISC.

**6. ALTERNATIVES:**

**7. ATTACHMENTS:**